TITUSVILLE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER, 2000

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

By Bud Hughes K4CWG

Our November club meeting will be the election of officers and board members to serve for the year 2001. If at all possible please come to the November 28 club meeting and cast your vote for the officers and board members of your choice. Anthony, KG4CEB has agreed to and is serving as the chairman of the nominating committee. If you would like to serve in any one of the offices or as a board member, please either let Anthony know or have your name tossed in the hat on election night. Remember - Anthony will submit a slate of officers for your consideration, and nominations from the floor will be accepted on election night. Should you have someone in mind for any of the vacancies and wish to nominate that person, be sure to talk to that member to assure that he or she is willing to accept the nomination and, if elected, will serve your club in that position. To be eligible to vote or serve as an officer or board member you must be a club member in good standing.

In last month's newsletter I mentioned the ongoing amateur radio class being taught by Stephanie, K4MVO. I am delighted to report that the class was a success, and thanks to her and her supporters, we now have 11 new Technician and 9 new General class licensees.

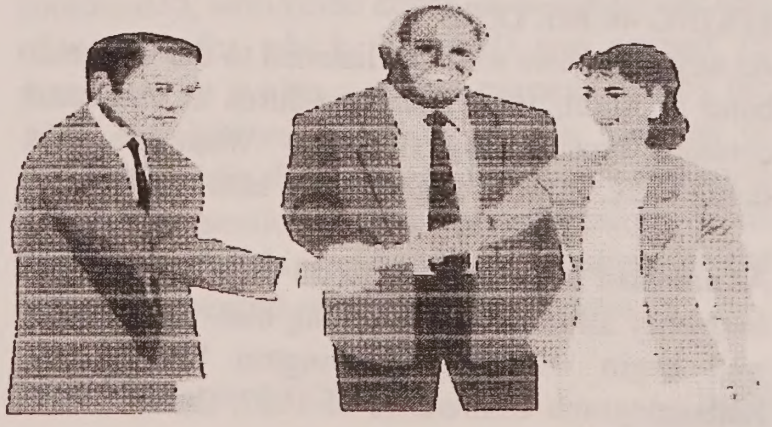
Coach Bill Canfield, KF4PGU has requested the club's assistance in providing communications for the track meets to be held November 11 and November 18. The State Meet is the 18th. There are several club members who have volunteered to be at BCC campus for both events. We really need your help in these events - especially the State Meet on the 18th. Please join us and support Coach Canfield.

The girls are talking and planning TARC Christmas dinner. We will be selling tickets to pay for the catering service for the dinner.

The Silent Key has claimed another of our friends. Red Thompson, W4UTU passed away on Friday, Nov. 4. There is no funeral planned in Titusville, as his body is being shipped to Colorado. Those of us who knew Red enjoyed his participation including foxhunts and bicycle riding as well as other club activities. We will miss our friend Red.

Please attend the November 28 meeting and cast your ballots.

MAY THE BEST MAN WIN!!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

NOV. 01 KE4BBK ORA PROSSER
NOV. 01 M2USO MARIE GENCORELLI
NOV. 04 KD4CBT CARL HUGHES
NOV. 09 KE4GOQ MIKE HADDAD
NOV. 11 W5RAQ RON RICHARDSON
NOV. 14 KC4SYD CLIFF HOAG
NOV. 21 MARY TYNER
NOV. 22 AE4LE RALPH HALL
NOV. 25 AA4HP HANK PHILLIPS
NOV. 26 KD4HNW KEN DENMAN
NOV. 26 KC4HIO RICHARD SWEATT
NOV. 27 KR4HS GEORGE SMITH
NOV. 27 KE4GV CHARMAIN COFFMAN
NOV. 28 KD4JBE HOOT GIBSON
NOV. 28 KA4NHW CLAYTON BENNETT

"IT SEEMS TO US"
from August 2000 QST

FIXING 40 METERS

As anyone knows who has listened to the 40-meter band at night, the upper two-thirds of the band contains broadcasting stations. What are they doing there, in what ought to be a ham band?

As are most stories having to do with international frequency allocations, it's a long one. We may as well begin with the Washington International Radiotelegraph Conference of 1927, the first such conference after the opening of the short waves. At the time the majority of the world's radio amateurs were in the United states, and the backing that they enjoyed from their government was in sharp contrast to the situation in much of the rest of the world. In Chapter 18 of *Two Hundred Meters and Down,* the definitive history of the early years of Amateur Radio, Clinton B. DeSoto recounts in detail how a 200-kHz allocation, 7000-7300 kHz, was won for amateurs worldwide and was successfully defended at the Madrid Conference in 1932.

While amateurs in the Americas have managed to hang onto those 300 kilohertz ever since, we have not been as fortunate in the rest of the world. Our losses there have reduced the utility of the band in this hemisphere as well. The problems began at the Cairo Conference in 1938. Reflecting the rising tensions in Europe and an increasing desire to disseminate propaganda, the Fascist government of Italy proposed reallocating parts of the amateur bands at 7 and 14 MHz for broadcasting. There was enough support for the Italian proposals that the best deal our defenders could make was for shared use of 7200-7300 kHz by amateurs and broadcasting, with broadcasting permitted only outside the Americas.

There were hopes that after World War II the band would be put back into rightful order, but they were dashed by the Cold War. Indeed, the situation became worse at a series of Atlantic City Conferences in 1947. There, the broadcasting band outside the Americas was extended down to 7100 kHz, with 7150-7300 kHz exclusively for broadcasting and 7100-7150 kHz exclusively for broadcasting (the arrangement in a few countries was more generous to amateurs).

At Geneva in 1959, the present allocations table for 7100-7300 kHz - broadcasting in Regions 1 and 3, amateur in Region 2 - was adopted. Twenty years later at WARC-79, despite a US proposal for a worldwide amateur allocation of 6950-7250 kHz,

amateurs in Region 2 almost lost our access to 7100-7300 kHz; it took the unanimous support of the countries in the region just to maintain the *status quo* . Our disappointment was assuaged somewhat by the gains we achieved elsewhere in the HF spectrum.

The next international conference to deal with the band was held in Torremolinos, Spain, in 1992. There, the US proposed a worldwide amateur allocation of 6900-7200 kHz as one of a package of proposals for expanded broadcasting bands. In the end, there was insufficient support for broadcasting expansion below 10 MHz to free up the spectrum required for such a realignment. The best that could be accomplished at Torremolinos was the adoption of a recommendation that the alignment of the amateur allocations around 7 MHz be placed on the agenda of a future conference.

Which brings us to Istanbul and WRC-2000. As reported beginning on page 51 this month, WRC-2000 recommended that 7-MHz realignment - "harmonization" was a term often used - be placed on the agenda of WRC-2003. The ITU Council will determine the final agenda, but at this point it is best to assume that the Council will accept this recommendation and to plan accordingly.

The objective of the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) is unequivocal: "The amateur service seeks an exclusive, worldwide allocation in the vicinity of7 MHz of no less than 300 kHz." When the allocation was first made in 1927, amateur stations worldwide numbered in the tens of thousands. Now they number in the millions. Broadcasters are fond of speaking of their unfulfilled requirements for spectrum between 4 and 10 MHz, but in this frequency range the amateur service has access *only* to the 40 meter band. The band is essential for disaster communications in the daytime over paths of 300 to 1000 km and frequently is the only band available for intercontinental communication at night. Fitting the wide and growing variety of amateur uses into the 100 kHz that is clear of broadcasting interference defies rational band planning.

On the other hand, the other HF services are not acknowledging any reduction in their own spectrum requirements. The maritime service has made a major commitment to satellite communications but has not volunteered to vacate HF. Military and disaster relief organizations continue to rely on HF fixed and mobile allocations. The aeronautical service is moving toward greater use of HF for data communication. HF broadcasters are hoping to compete with satellites and the Internet by leapfrogging from the noise and distortion of double-sideband AM to a brave new digital world, and doubtless will argue that they will need more spectrum to accomplish the transition.

Thus, the final gavel at WRC-2000 in Istanbul did not simply mark the end of an important four-week conference. It also marked the beginning of preparations for an even more important one, three years hence. Lest we forget, 40 meters is not the only major agenda item we face a WRC-2003. Among others, we have to defend against Little LEOs and deal with proposals to rewrite Article S25, the section of the Radio Regulations that deals specifically with the amateur and amateur-satellite services.

Achieving the best possible outcome for Amateur Radio at WRC-2003 will require a sustained, coordinated, worldwide effort. It is exactly the sort of mission for which the IARU was created 75 years ago. It is also a perfect example of why the ARRL established the Fund for the Defense of Amateur Radio Frequencies to support spectrum defense, domestically and internationally. Your ARRL membership and your contributions to the Fund are essential elements to our success.

David Summer, K1ZZ

OLD CLICHES

A friend e-mailed this to Bud, and he forwarded it to us. I don't know if they are all true, but they are interesting.

Next time you are washing your hands and complain because the water temp isn't just how you like it, think about how things used to he…Here are some facts about the 1950s.

Most people got married in June because they took their yearly bath in May and were still smelling pretty good by June. However, they were starting to smell, so brides carried a bouquet of flowers to hide the body odor. Baths consisted of a big tub filled with hot water. The man of the house had the privilege of the nice clean water, then all the other sons and men, then the women and finally the children. Last of all the babies. By then the water was so dirty you could actually lose someone in it, hence the saying, "Don't throw the baby out with the bath water:/

Houses had thatched roofs - thick straw, piled high, with no wood underneath. It was the only place for animals to get warm, so all the pet dogs, cats and other small animals; mice, rats & bugs - lived in the roof. When it rained it became slippery and sometimes the animals would slip and fall off the roof, hence the saying, "It's raining cats and dogs:'

There was nothing to stop things from falling into the house. This posed a real problem in the bedroom where bugs and other droppings could really mess up your nice clean bed. Hence, a bed with big posts and a sheet hung over the top afforded some protection. That is how canopy beds came into existence.

The floor was dirt. Only the wealthy had something other than dirt, hence the saying "dirt poor"

The wealthy had slate floors that would get slippery in the winter when wet. So they spread thresh on the floor to help keep their footing. As the winter wore on they kept adding more thresh until when you opened the door it would all start slipping outside. A piece of wood was placed in the entryway, hence a - "threshold"

They cooked in the kitchen with a big kettle that hung over the fire. Every day they lit the fire and added things to the pot. They mostly ate vegetables and did not get much meat. They would eat the stew for dinner leaving leftovers in the pot to get cold overnight and then start over the next day. Sometimes the stew had food in it that had been in there for quite a while, hence the rhyme "peas porridge hot, peas porridge cold, peas porridge in the pot nine days old".

Sometimes they could obtain pork, which made them feel quite special. When visitors came over, they would hang up their bacon to show off. It was a sign of wealth and that a man "could bring home the bacon". They would cut off a little to share with guests and would all sit around and "chew the fat."

Those with money had plates made of pewter. Food with a high acid content caused some of the lead to leach onto the food, causing lead poisoning and death. This happened most often with tomatoes, so for the next 400 years or so tomatoes were considered poisonous.

Most people did not have pewter plates, but had trenchers, a piece of wood with the middle scooped out like a bowl. Trenchers were never washed and a lot of times worms got into the wood. After eating off wormy trenchers, one would get "trenchmouth".

Bread was divided according to status. Workers got the burnt bottom of the loaf, the family got the middle, and guests got the top, or the "upper crust."

MORE ON REPAIRING OLD HEADSETS
From Hints & Kinks - Oct. QSL

Regarding those wonderfully flexible (but impossible to solder) metal-on-nylon cords which are found in headsets and some telephone cables, here's a hint that I've used for years. As N7OJ mentioned, reconnecting them is a pain. A close examination of a typical connection on one of these will usually show that the original connectors have tiny teeth which went through the insulation.

Go to your local RadioShack and pick up their part number 64-3070, insulation-piercing telephone spade lugs. A pack of 24 is about $1.49. These are perfect for this task.

Leave the outer insulation intact on your disconnected wires, trimming off any exposed metal conductor. Then carefully crimp one of those lugs onto the stub. The teeth poke through and make contact with the conductor, while the insulation keeps the foil/metal conductor in place and provides a bit of strain relief. Now you've moved from tinsel wire to real metal (tada!) and can trim/solder the spade lug as needed. I've fixed head sets and other flimsy things for quite some time with this method, and I'm amazed that RadioShack still carries the lugs. They're vital when you need them, but can't be a big seller.

Here's a another, newer solution. I told a friend about this headset cord tip. He has a pile of antique headsets with cloth cords that are either missing or rotted. Therefore, he asked me to surf the web and see what I could find. I found Phoneco Inc. 19813 E. Mill Rd., PO Box 70, Galesville, WI 54630. Tel. 608-582-4124.URL http://www .phonecoinc.com/. They sell old telephones, reproduction and novelty telephones, miscellaneous parts and memorabilia. The cords shown on their Web page might not be original equipment headset cords, but they look awfully close. *Jim Tolson, KF9CI,,Skokie, IL*

A MISSED OPPORTUNITY
From Correspondence - Oct. QSL

While hiking in the mountains I got my HT out of the car and was able to hit a repeater miles away, in spite of the fact that rocks and mountain outcroppings surrounded me. A fellow nonham hiker expressed interest in my "high-power walkie-talkie." He wanted one that he could use for emergency communication during long hiking expeditions.

When I pointed out that 5 W was about all you could get out of any amateur HT, and that the repeater did most of the work, he became even more curious about Amateur Radio. His intent was not, like many hams, to tinker, modify or re-engineer products, but rather simply to have a reliable form of emergency equipment.

I'm wondering if the ham community has missed an excellent opportunity by not allying with the outdoor recreation folks. Yes, the amateur equipment manufacturers often run ads in QST showing HTs in use in outdoor settings, but who besides QST readers see them? This idea may elicit a groan from many hams, but maybe the availability of the codeless Technician class license ought to be made known to those who frequent such places as REI, Sports Chalet and other large chain sporting goods stores. Who knows, there may be many hikers, boaters, climbers and bike riders out there who might very well be interested in becoming hams. It might be just what we need. *John R. Powell, KF4EOJ, Downey, CA*

OLD/NEW PROVERBS

A penny saved.....not much.
Better late.....than pregnant.
Love all.....trust me.
No news is.....impossible.
A miss is as good as.....a Mr.
If at first you don't succeed.....get new batteries.
The pen is mightier than the.....pigs.

ABELL'S ANECDOTES

By Pike W4EPU

"Wow! What a ride!"

Those were the only words John Glenn uttered as he was being plucked from the Pacific ocean after his historic (first American to orbit the earth) flight.

>Ironically, the exact same words (plus "hot digity dog") were uttered by Pike Abell when he crawled out of the race car. You see, NASCAR race driver Adam Clarke had just taken Pike for a three lap spin around the Daytona International Speedway at speeds upwards of 170 miles per hour. It was so fast that by the time Clara started to worry, the ride was over. Clara felt responsible because the ride was a birthday present from her.

>Skip back a few days: Clara and Pike were with a group touring the Daytona USA exhibits which included a tram tour around the race track. The tour guide explained that a much more exciting way to tour the track would be in a racing car driven by a race driver at racing speeds. It was called "*The Richard Petty Riding Experience*". But he said it would cost a hundred bucks. "I'd love to do that but it's too rich for my blood." Pike commented to Clara. A couple of minutes later, Clara said to Pike, "Your birthday is coming up. How about if I treat you to the ride?? That did it!

>Written from here on in the first person: A few days later we went to Daytona. One of the reasons was for me to take the ride. We arrived at the track. Clara paid the $105.00. ($99.00 plus tax). We and a group of others were bussed down to pit row where two race cars, #8 and #15 were being used alternatively. When we arrived the cars were sitting side by side being inspected. I was the second person in line. The first in line was fitted with a helmet, crawled into the first car, #8, was strapped in and they drove off. The engine noise was comparable to the space shuttle lifting off. They were accelerating so fast that by the time they reached the end of pit row they must have been traveling at least 100 mph. I managed to crawl into my car, #15, (the cars have no doors. The only way one can get in or out is squeeze through the window opening where there are actually no windows). About that time car #8 passed by on the track at full speed. It was then I began having second thoughts and wondering what I was doing there. I looked down at the ticket stub I was still clutching in my hand. It was stamped in big letters "NO REFUND". Now, there was no turning back.

>My driver looked at me and said "I'm Adam Clarke. Are you ready?" I said "I'm Pike Abell. Lets go!" and go we did! We took off in the same fashion as car #8, if not more so. The entire trip was one of the most thrilling experiences I can ever recall. I vividly remember every detail of all three laps. There is not enough room here to describe the whole three or four minutes of the ride.

>However, I shall dwell on two things which, to me, stood above the rest. On the third lap we stayed within inches of the wall the complete length of the back stretch. Although I was (safely?) inside the car, I instinctively squeezed my arms in as close as I could. You see, I was on the side of the car next to the wall. The guard rail, just inches away, was supported by white posts spaced about 20 feet apart. At the speed we were traveling, it looked to me like a picket fence.

>Something else that stood out in my mind were the curves. One must understand this: The curves are scientifically banked at approximately 37 degrees. They are so steep that a car standing still would literally slide down the embankment or roll over. On the other hand, at racing speeds the centrifugal force overcomes gravity and it is as if the car is on level ground. That produces the illusive effect that the car is actually on a level plane. That illusion causes the curved track ahead to look like it was curving up-up-and-away at that angle. It is a weird feeling.

As indicated above, the ride was a thrill of thrills. I would recommend it to anyone who, as I did, can find someone else to pay for it.

(grin)

73s es 88s

OCTOBER MINUTES
By Becky KF4HTB

After the opening ceremonies - Pledge of allegiance, moment of silence, introduction of members and guests and Bills birthday greetings, Carl, AE4MXG showed some items he had for sale, including an emergency light/4 way radio/recharger/emergency power combo and a portable power station.

Coach Canfield, KF4PGU talked about the upcoming track meets on 11/11 and 11/18. He said the 11/18 state race is the critical one. He asked for the club to help by coordinating traffic control and parking. Bud, K4CWG asked that the members make a special effort to help out on these dates.

Bud K4CWG announced that Anthony, KG4CEB has agreed to solicit members and present a proposed slate of officers to be voted on at the November meeting. He asked that anyone interested in running for an office contact Anthony to get their name in the pot.

Ozzie, N4SCY told the club that the Phase 3D Satellite launch date is 11/14/00. You may get more information on the launch at amsat.org.

Jose KC4VIO said that the Mosquito Net will be 10 years old in March, 2001, and announced that Walt, W1IAA will be taking over the mosquito net at the usual time on Wednesdays. Walt explained how he had gotten interested in taking over the net, and asked everyone to be sure to check in.

Two members - K4MVO Stephanie and Ralph AG4LE - made donations to the Jaycee rental fund.

Clyde and I have a new computer with Windows ME and lots of space, and we are thinking about e-mailing the newsletter to those members who have e-mail and continuing to mail the newsletter to those who don't. It would save the club about $50 per month. We would like membership feedback on this idea.

TREASURERS REPORT

By Becky Lee, KF4HTB

Balance forward from 1999	$4333.03
Deposits Year to Date	3414.85
TOTAL INCOME	**$7747.85**
Expenditures	3385.89
BALANCE AS AT 9/30/00	**$4361.99**

CLUB OFFICERS

President: Bud Hughes, K4CWG. 267-3450
V.Pres: Ozzie Osband, N4SCY. 321-LIFTOFF
Sec/Treas: Becky Lee, KF4HTB, 267-9375

ELECTED BOARD MEMBERS

Ken Denman, KD4HNW. 269-5711
John Renninger, KE4ZPA. 267-9431
Grant Hahne, KF4IGK. 269-6484
Sherry Hughes, KU4ZO. 269-0779

REPEATER CUSTODIAN BOARD MEMBERS

Les Griner, K4SJC (146.91) 267-1565
Warren Murray, W4CEL (146.97) 638-5476
Dave McLean, WB4SIG (444.15) 267-6181
Larry Carr, WB9MFJ (Packet-Rose Node) 268-4114

CLUB INFORMATION

Meetings: Monthly on 4th Tuesday at 1900 hrs. at Jaycee Building

Newsletter Editors: KF4HTB Becky Lee
K4EOS Clyde Lee

Nets: **VIP**-Thursdays at 1000 hrs. 146.910
Friendship-Thursdays at 1830 hrs. 146.910
Mosquito-Wednesdays at 1900 hrs. 28.333
Traders-Fridays at 2000 hrs 146.910

TITUSVILLE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
P. O. BOX 73
TITUSVILLE FL 32781-0073

THEATRE OR POLITICS?

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE
Total membership: 217 (148 regular, 51 family, 12 honorary, 6 other)
NEW MEMBER:
000000 ROBERT ROOS
KF4WCB MIKE DALLAS
KF4WOZ BARBARA DALLAS
RENEWALS:
WA4CUO BILL HOSKINSON
KD4DOJ FAYE SKIDMORE
KE4FFA MONA SKIDMORE
KE4HOE FRED HADDAD
KE4GOQ MIKE HADDAD
W1IAA WALT HART
K4IXU JOHN PITTMAN
KE4MWY DAN CHYCOTA
KF4FEZ GAIL CHYCOTA
W2SDB BILL EPPLEY
KF4VRR DONALD PATTEN

HAMFESTS:

11/11	PORT ST. LUCIE
12/2	OKEECHOBEE
12/2-3	PALMETTO
12/9	LAKE CITY
01/12-13	FT. MEYERS
01/27	ARCADIA
02/3-4	MIAMI
02/10-11	ORLANDP
03/3	NEW PORT RICHIE
03/10	SUNRISE
04/28-29	GAINESVILLE